COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

August 15, 2018

George Sigounas, MS, Ph.D. Administrator Health Resources and Services Administration 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Application from Affiliated Service Providers of Indiana, Inc. for Funding from the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – HRSA-18-116

Dear Dr. Sigounas:

As Senator from Indiana, I am deeply concerned about the increase in opioid abuse and addiction throughout the state, and the nation. Unfortunately, like many Americans, rural Hoosiers lack access to effective addiction prevention, treatment and recovery services. For this reason I support the efforts of Affiliated Service Providers of Indiana, Inc., d/b/a ASPIN, to strengthen the organizational and infrastructural capacity of local consortiums focused on reducing opioid overdose morbidity and mortality through prevention, treatment and recovery.

According to data from the state of Indiana, deaths caused by opioid use continues to increase. With funding from this grant, ASPIN and its partners will focus efforts on Dearborn, Henry, Jackson, and Union counties, located in rural southeast Indiana. These counties are all witnessing increasing morbidity and mortality caused by substance use.

ASPIN is dedicated to improving the delivery of healthcare services for the underserved rural population of Indiana. I encourage a favorable review of this application for funding in accordance with U.S. law and public policy. I would appreciate being notified when a decision is made. Questions and announcements can be directed to my office by contacting Marianne Black at Marianne_Black@donnelly.senate.gov or at (317) 226-5555.

Sincerely,

Joe Donnelly

United States Senator